Any decision re contract ?

Walk, Roger A.

From: Walk, Roger A.
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2003 3:58 PM
To: Max Eisenberg (rmgroup2000@aol.com)
Cc: Zhang, Mingda (R&D)
Subject: FW: FYI and Question
DSS: Yes

Max, have you heard about this already?
Roger

-----Original Message-----
From: Golisch, Jennifer L
Sent: Tuesday, June 17, 2003 5:58 PM
To: Walk, Roger A.
Subject: FW: FYI and Question

Roger -- Could you please give me a call to discuss this piece. Thanks much.

Jennifer

-----Original Message-----
From: Golisch, Jennifer L
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2003 4:18 PM
To: Gadani, Ferruccio
Cc: Walk, Roger A.; McCormick, Brendan J.
Subject: FYI and Question

Ferruccio/Roger:

Thought this article would be of interest. Could you please let me know who is handling this internally? Thanks.

OSU Must Take Sides In Tobacco Debate (Columbus Dispatch – front page)
Strings tied to grant for nicotine study fueling controversy
By Alayna DeMartini
June 16, 2003

Tobacco giant Philip Morris is dangling a $590,000 grant to study the effects of nicotine in front of Ohio State University. A state foundation is offering a $540,000 grant for a smokingcessation program.

The university can pick only one.

If OSU accepts the grant from the Ohio Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Foundation, it will have to turn down Philip Morris' because the foundation's policy has prohibited funding agencies that are receiving money from a tobacco company.

The issue has plunged OSU into a grant tug of war.

On one side are defenders of academic freedom who say the university shouldn't accept a grant that

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/ymfk0001

limits what other faculty members study.

Opposing them are faculty members who think the university shouldn't accept money from tobacco companies.

"Frankly, who's more of a threat to the U.S.: Osama bin Laden or Philip Morris? Every year, we lose 400,000 Americans to smoking-related illnesses," said Dr. Rob Crane, an associate professor in OSU's medical school and a member of the state tobacco-prevention foundation's board of trustees.

President Karen Holbrook's administration is expected to announce a decision this week.

If the university opts for the Philip Morris grant, it will be the first time in at least a decade that the university has taken research money from a tobacco company, said OSU spokesman Earle Holland. The foundation donor records go back only 10 years, he said.

OSU ranks third nationally among public universities for research sponsored by private companies. Last year, the university took in $426 million in private grants.

R. Thomas Boyd, an associate professor in OSU's College of Medicine who's being offered the Philip Morris grant, said the strings attached to the state grant aren't fair to the rest of the faculty.

"That's like Honda saying it's going to give you a grant to study something, but no one else (on the faculty) can get grants from Ford or General Motors," said Boyd, who added, "I'm not a tobacco fan."

The work he is proposing includes testing the effect of nicotine on the brain receptors of zebrafish, an animal whose embryonic development often is comparable to that of humans.

Future grants from the state tobacco-prevention foundation might be less controversial because its board of trustees recently agreed to loosen its rules.

In a 10-7 vote, the board decided to allow a university de- partment to accept a foundation grant as long as that department — not the entire university — is not receiving tobacco-company money.

Foundation members who supported the policy change say they wouldn't want to prevent OSU or other universities from applying for future grants just because one department is doing research funded by tobacco companies.

The foundation is soliciting requests for proposals for another $500,000 grant — to research and help curb smokeless tobacco use in Ohio.

Two likely applicants, some foundation members say, are the state's only two dentistry schools: OSU and Case Western Reserve University. Case Western has been ruled out for a previous foundation grant because it was accepting grant money from a tobacco company.

Foundation president Michael J. Renner, executive director of the tobacco foundation, said the board's decision gives the foundation more options when it puts out a request for proposals.

"I certainly don't think it's a sellout," Renner said.

But not everyone on the foundation board is pleased with the move.

6/19/2003

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/ymfk0001

"I think it unfortunately encourages tobacco companies to invade the sanctity of academic science," Crane said. "There is a long history of tobacco companies perverting science to their own end."

6/19/2003

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